

SOMETHING

A B O U T

COINS.

BY E. I. BARRE.

SAN FRANCISCO:  
PUBLISHED BY THE WRITER,  
No. 110 Fifth Street, corner Mina.  
1863.

# MISS JULIA JENKINS.

In the famous golden city that o'erlooks the western ocean,  
Where those monarchs, Wealth and Fashion, exert their sovereign  
sway,

Dwells a lady of wondrous beauty, who excites profound devotion  
In the hearts of all the bachelors, alike the grave and gay.

Her cheeks are like the roses that unfold their leaves each morning,  
To greet with smiling welcome the life imparting sun;  
And nature's fine art pencilng, her classic brow adorning,  
Impart a power to her eyes to melt a heart of stone.

Her head, a fitting model of grace and queen-like carriage,  
Displays luxuriant ringlets of waving glossy hair;  
The whiteness of her neck no vain critic can disparage;  
Her hands are plump and dimpled, charming, soft and fair.

What causes so much loveliness, her neighbours often wonder,  
Where one who was so plain before derives such beauty from;  
They may dispel their doubts, for the mystery holds no longer—  
Miss Julia's daily toilet wash is PURE NEW ENGLAND RUM.

Do you want a good head of hair? Then wash it with Pure New England Rum.

Do you want a brilliant complexion? Then wash your face with Pure New England Rum.

Do you want to eradicate eruptions and freckles? Then wash with Pure New England Rum.

Do you want to preserve a youthful appearance? Then saturate a towel with Pure New England Rum, and apply the same daily to your face, instead of water.

Experience has fully demonstrated that New England Rum is the best toilet wash in the world.

It is a sure preventive of wrinkles. It is peculiarly adapted for use in this climate.

Imported from Boston, Mass., and for sale at

37½ CENTS PER QUART BOTTLE,

BY

E. I. BARRA,  
No. 118 FIRST STREET,

(Corner of Minna Street.)

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# SOMETHING ABOUT COINS.

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By E. I. BARRA.

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The science of Numismatics, or the study of Coins, is one of the most pleasant as well as one of the most instructive pursuits. The appetite for it may be said to grow from that which it feeds upon. Much historical knowledge can be acquired from the examination of coins.

A coin is a piece of metal of fixed weight, and stamped by authority of government, and employed as a circulating medium.—*Encyclopediæ Brittanica*.

In monarchical countries, upon the accession of each monarch to the throne, an entirely new set of dies are adopted in the mints of the country, bearing the image of the new monarch on the obverse side. In this way the date of the commencement of the reign of each monarch can be traced on the coins, as well as the length of the reign. For instance, the writer has a dollar piece of the time of Ferdinand VII, King of Spain, of the date of 1810, also a dollar piece of the time of Joseph Napoleon Bonaparte, King of Spain, of

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the date of 1810, showing clearly that Ferdinand, King of Spain, was deposed in that year, and was succeeded as king by the French adventurer, Joseph Napoleon Bonaparte; and a Spanish dollar of 1815, shows the restoration of Ferdinand VII.

In republican countries a different mode prevails, the money generally bears an allegorical device, representing liberty, although in the United States the love and veneration of the people for Washington was so strong that it was proposed to Congress to impress the bust of Washington on the coins, but the noble object of so much adulation, with far seeing prudence, advised the adoption of a device, wherein liberty should be the leading feature. In countries where the government does not pay that attention to the requirements of commerce which it does in leading commercial nations, the people are obliged to resort to various expedients to obtain the requisite small change for the proper prosecution of trade. In South American countries, it is a common practice to divide half and quarter dollars into two and four pieces, and even twelve and a half cent pieces are frequently so divided, of which the writer has some specimens. In Chili, they melt the native silver and model it into small bars, from which they cut pieces and reduce to the weight of twenty-five, twelve and a half and six and a quarter cents, and stamp them with rude dies, without regard to shape. The writer has pieces of the above denomination.

The English pound sterling originally expressed, not a coin exchangeable into twenty shillings, but simply a pound weight of silver of sterling fineness. The livre of France also meant a pound of silver of a fineness fixed by the government. —*Iconographic Cyclopedia*.

Silver coin came into use c. 600 B. C., according to some authorities, while others claim for them a much earlier origin. At the earliest known period a pound

of silver was worth about \$13 20. The value of gold as compared with silver was originally as ten to one, in the best days of the Roman Republic, as twelve and a half to one, and under the emperors, as fourteen to one; in the United States at the present time, the relation of gold to silver is, within a trifle, as sixteen to one; which is an infallible evidence of the more rapid increase of the supply of silver than of gold. Of ancient coins there are a greater number of copper than of silver extant. The reason is, probably, that copper coins possess so little value as money, that persons are the more ready to preserve them, as mementos of past ages.

### ROMAN COINS.

The writer has in his collection a Roman copper coin of the time of Trajan, who reigned Emperor of Rome, from A. D. 98 to A. D. 117. The following is the description: The obverse bears the portrait of the emperor. It has the inscription Imp(eratori) Caes(ari) Nervae Traiano Avg(usto) Ger(manico) Dae(ico) P(arthico) P(ontifico) M(aximo) Tr(ibunitia) P(otestate) Co(n)suli V. P(atri) P(atriae): to the best Emperor, Ceasar Nerva Trajan Augustus Germaniens Daciens. High Pontiff (exercising) the tribunitian power. The type of the reverse is the emperor, on a richly caparisoned horse, who is darting a javelin at a prostrate enemy. It has the legend S(enatus) P(opulus) Q(uie) R(omanus) Optime Princeps: the Roman Senate and people to the best prince. History says of Trajan—Marcus Ulpius Trajanus Crinitus was born at Italica in Spain. He was adopted by Nerva, Emperor of Rome, in A. D. 97, as the most worthy to succeed. He was the pupil of the celebrated Plutarch, was a man of great talents both for peace and war, and possessed the qualities of a wise and successful monarch in no ordinary

degree. His first exploit was to subdue the Dacians, who had greatly infested the empire under the reign of Domitian. After an obstinate contest, Decabalus, their king, was routed and compelled to acknowledge himself tributary to Rome. His internal administration was equally successful and admirable. He reigned from A. D. 98 to A. D. 117, and died at Seleucia, while on an expedition in the east, in the sixty-third year of his age, and the twentieth of his reign. Accordingly, at the lowest estimate, the coin spoken of is 1746 years old.

#### COIN OF HENRY IV.

The next rare coin in the collection is a copper one of the time of Henry IV. King of France. The obverse bears the bust of the king, and the legend, Henri III—Henry the Fourth. Henri III R. DE FRAN. ET NAV.—Henry the Fourth, King of France and Navarre. Reverse, three Fleur de Lis, surrounded by a circle, and the legend, Double Tournois, date 1599. History says of Henry the Fourth—"Henry the Fourth, deservedly known in history as Henry the Great, did not arrive at the throne without experiencing the most formidable opposition. Gay, amiable and cheerful, he endeared himself to all who approached him. He longed, he said, to see the day when every peasant in France should have a chicken in his pot. He was married in 1600, to Mary de Medicis, but still retained that proneness to intrigue and licentiousness which formed the least estimable part of his disposition. On the 14th of May, 1610, while passing in a carriage slowly through a crowd, an assassin named Ravillac, inspired by fanaticism, leaped upon the wheel and stabbed him twice in the breast. He survived but a brief time and expired amid the heartfelt lamentations of the whole kingdom. He was in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and the twenty-first of his reign."

## COIN OF JAMES II.

1686, James II, a Four-penny Piece, and called at that time a Groat. Obverse—head of the king—legend, Jacobus II, Dei Gratia. Reverse—four bars surmounted by a crown—legend, Mag. Br. et Hib. Rex.—Date, 1686. History says of James II. “James, immediately on his accession, conciliated the people and the church by a most public declaration that the establishment should not be disturbed. Notwithstanding his solemn deelaration, he put in practice some severe measures against the Protestants which incited a rebellion, headed by the Duke of Argyle. The rebels were defeated by the king’s forces, and their sympathizers cruelly punished. The infamous Jeffries made a circuit through the country, trying the aeeused, and several hundreds were executed by his orders, after a species of mock trial. In 1688, the king required, that his declaration of general toleration should be read from all the pulpits. The concession came too late ; the disaffection of the people alarmed him so seriously that he secretly fled to France. The throne being vacant by the flight of the king, William, Prince of Orange, and Mary his wife, who was the daughter of the Duke of York, were declared by a convention, as the joint sovereigns of England, under the titles of William III. and Mary II. James reigned from the latter part of 1685 to the latter part of 1688, three years.

## AN IRISH HALF-PENNY OF GEORGE THE FIRST.

Obverse—Portrait of the king ; legend — Georgius Dei Gratia Rex ; reverse—a female figure sitting on the Globe, her left arm resting on a harp, and the right one outstretched; legend — Hibernia ; date — 1723.

History says of George I.:—The new monarch was 54 years of age, a foreigner, entirely ignorant of the language, laws and manners of his adopted kingdom. He landed in England in September, 1714. The government soon became exceedingly corrupt. The king's German mistresses and favorites were continually impatient for estates and titles, and possessed sufficient influence to determine the fate of measures and ministries. In 1723 a great excitement existed in Ireland, fomented by Dean Swift, occasioned by the attempted issue of a debased copper coin, entitled from the name of the patentee, "Wood's half-pence." So great was the clamor that government was compelled to retract from the measure.

The writer has no doubt that the half-penny in his possession is one of those spoken of, from the fact that it is not as large as other Irish half-pence in his collection, nor does it weigh within one-third as much as the others. Besides the date on the half-penny mentioned is the very year the Wood's half-pence was issued.

The king died during his yearly journey to Hanover, on the 11th June, 1727. He was in the sixty-eighth year of his age, and the thirteenth of his reign.

#### LOUIS THE FOURTEENTH.

Two copper coins of Louis XIV., King of France and Navarre, both in a fine state of preservation; obverse the bust of the King; legend, LUDOVICUS XIV., FR. ET NAV. REX.; reverse, the God of the river, filling the river out of his urn; legend, Fatorum Lege Recurrit—It runs according to the law of fate. Date, 1654. The other coin bears on the obverse the bust of the king; legend, LUDOVICUS MAGNUS REX; reverse, a meridian sun throwing its rays on the mountain tops, while shafts are aimed at it from below; legend, Ab Alto Securus; high; secure from attack.

History says of Louis XIV:—The predominant quality of the young monarch was an intense selfishness. He was by no means destitute of abilities, though not brilliant: and he was served by able officers both in war and the state. In the latter part of his reign the influence at court was that of Madame de Maintenon, whom the king married in 1685, privately: she was never publicly acknowledged as queen: she had been a widow and was governess to a lady of the court, and in this situation attracted the attention of the king who was charmed with her agreeable manners. The king died in 1715, after a reign of seventy-three years, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

#### SYCEE SILVER.

In China they do not have any silver or gold coin—they cast the silver into a shape somewhat resembling a bread-tray, which is called a sycee, and its value is reckoned by weight in taels; a tael is equal to \$1 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ . The only coin in China is the cash, which is a small piece of circular-brass, the size of an American half-cent, it has a wide and raised margin: in the centre it has a square hole, around which there are Chinese characters: these pieces are strung in strings of one hundred each, which is called a mace, and is equal to ten cents. The writer has a miniature sycee in his collection, presented to him by a gentleman of this city, who received it from a friend now in China, who was formerly an auctioneer in this city.

#### JAPANESE COINS.

The Japanese are in advance of the Chinese in coining. They have gold, silver and brass coins. The gold and silver coins are oblong in form. The brass

coins are elliptical. The writer has two silver coins, which are called Itzebues, valued at 47 cents each; and two brass coins that are equal to 3 cents each, and are called tempos.

### AMERICAN COINS.

In the early settlement of the American colonies each colony regulated its own system of currency. As early as the year 1652, the colony of Massachusetts, having for a long time felt the necessity of a uniform system of currency, passed a law by her General Assembly, and a committee was appointed to build a Mint, and procure the necessary tools at the cost of the commonwealth. The assembly passed a law, making the colonial money the only legal currency of the commonwealth, with the exception of English coins. All persons were granted the liberty to take into the mint-house, in Boston, all bullion, plate, and Spanish coin, there to be melted and brought to the alloy of sterling silver, and for which the mint-master was required to pay to such person the like weight in current money, after deducting one shilling out of every twenty for coining. As the coining of money was a royal prerogative, its usurpation by the colony very naturally excited the disapprobation of the home government. In order to appease the displeasure of the King, an offering was sent in 1677, of ten barrels of cranberries, two hogsheads of samb, and three thousand codfish; and at another time a number of fine spars for the royal navy were sent. Notwithstanding all these acts of conciliation, the mint was abolished in 1686, by order of the home government, and coining ceased during the dependency of the colony to England. Some of the money coined by the colony of Massachusetts, is still extant, in the possession of coin collectors, and are

known as the pine-tree shillings, and sixpence ; also, the oak-tree shillings, and oak-tree sixpence. The colony of Maryland, also, issued coins that were known as the Lord Baltimore shillings, and the Lord Baltimore sixpence. These coins were made in England, expressly for colonial circulation, by order of Lord Baltimore, in 1659. Lord Baltimore was the lord proprietor of the colony of Maryland, by virtue of a royal patent ; and the Governor of the colony received the appointment direct from him.

#### CONNECTICUT CENT.

In 1737, a blacksmith named Highley, in the town of Granby, Connecticut, issued a large number of coins made of pure copper, and were known as the Granby coppers ; they are of the value of a penny. After the Declaration of Independence, during the confederation, each State exercised the right of coining money, most of which was copper. The State of Connecticut established a Mint, and issued a large amount of copper cents, one of which the writer has in his collection. Description of Connecticut cent :— Obverse—A bust in coat of mail facing to the left ; legend, Auctori Connec.—authority of Connecticut ; reverse, the Goddess of Liberty seated on the globe—facing to the left the liberty pole surmounted by the cap in the left hand, and the olive-branch in the right ; legend, INDE. ET LIB. Independent and free ; date, 1787.

#### WASHINGTON CENT.

At the conclusion of the war of independence the nation so sensibly felt the value of the eminent services rendered by Washington, that many coins were caused

to be struck bearing his bust, and they are known as the Washington cents, one of which the writer has in his collection. Description:—Obverse, the bust of Washington; legend, Washington; reverse, the same as the obverse; legend, One Cent. The American Numismatic Manual, says this coin was made in 1783.

### THE FIRST UNITED STATES MONEY.

MINT—Saxon, *mynet*, money or stamped coin. This word is doubtless a derivative from mine, or Latin, *moneta*, from the same root. The place where money is coined by public authority.—*Noah Webster*.

An ordinance for establishing a Mint of the United States was passed in October, 1786. In accordance with the above ordinance government not having a mint, entered into a contract with James Jarvis, who had, with others, established a Mint in the State of Connecticut, by permission of the State in 1775. In compliance with the contract, Jarvis, in 1787, furnished the government with 300 tons of cents, which were consequently the first money issued by the United States. Description of the first United States cent:—Device—A dial with the hours expressed upon the face, with "Fugio" on the left, and 1787 on the right; a meridian sun, and below it the legend "Mind your business;" reverse, thirteen circles linked together, forming a large circle in the centre of the same, a small circle with "United States" around it, and in the centre, "We are one." There are two of these coins in the collection of the writer.

### THE FIRST UNITED STATES MINT.

The Constitution of the United States was formed in 1787, ratified by Congress in 1788; that in tru-

ment gives to the Government of the United States the sole power to regulate the currency, as will be seen in the following words of Section 8th, Article 1st:—  
“Congress shall have the power to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures.” The foregoing is all that the Constitution says in regard to money. In pursuance of the power given by the Constitution, Congress in 1791, enacted a code of laws for the establishment and regulation of a Mint. In 1793 the Mint commenced operations by coining cents. The writer has a cent of 1791. In the latter part of 1794 the first silver coin was struck, and the die was unchanged until the latter part of 1795, except in the date. The writer has in his collection one dollar of the first part of 1795, consequently it is of the same design as the first dollar that was issued; another dollar in the collection is of the same date, but the device is somewhat different, having been issued in the latter part of 1795. The first gold coin of the United States was struck off in 1795. The coinage of silver was continued without any material change in the design until 1837, in which year the design was entirely changed on the dimes. Instead of the head, the full length figure of the Goddess of Liberty in a sitting posture, was substituted on the obverse. The reverse, instead of the Eagle, a wreath, encircling the words “One Dime.” On the quarters the obverse the same as on the dimes. The reverse unchanged. From 1796, at which time the first quarters and dimes were issued, until 1820, their emission was irregular. In 1826, 1829 and 1830, there were no quarters minted; with that exception, their issue since 1820 to the present time, has been uninterrupted. Dimes have been issued every year, from 1820 to the present time, with the exception of 1826, in which year none others than half-dollars were minted. The writer has specimen dimes of each issue, from 1820 to date.

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The first Mint in the United States was established in Philadelphia, in 1792, since which time there have been established the following branch Mints:—

Charlotte, North Carolina; Dahlonaga, Georgia; New Orleans, Louisiana; and San Francisco, California; a Branch Mint in Auraria, Pike's Peak, Colorado Territory, and an Assay Office in New York.

All the money coined at the Branch Mints bears the initial letter of the name of the place where the Mint is located. Thus, for San Francisco, S.; New Orleans, O.; Dahlonaga, D., Charlotte, C; and Auraria, A. The initial appears on the reverse of the coin, immediately under the talons of the eagle. Money issued from the parent Mint does not bear a local mark. No silver coin has been issued from the Mint of Dahlonaga, or the one at Charlotte; they were established for coining the gold found in the mines in their vicinity. The law for the issuing of twenty dollar pieces was passed in 1849, in which year there were some minted in Philadelphia; most of those in circulation in this State bear the initial of the local Mint. All the dies for stamping money are engraved at the parent Mint, and are distributed to the Branch Mints. Every twenty dollar piece has the initials J. B. L., impressed in very small letters on the verge at the termination of the neck of the Goddess of Liberty; they signify John B. Longacre, who is the engraver of the U. S. Mint. Specimens of the coinage of each quarter are sent from the Branch Mints to the parent Mint once in each year, and are there examined by the United States District Attorney, Superintendent of the Mint, and Chief Assayer. Each year a new set of dies, with dates corresponding to the year, are distributed to the Branch Mints, where the old ones are destroyed in the presence of the officers of the Mint.

## THE UNITED STATES BRANCH MINT, SAN FRANCISCO.

Persons desirous of visiting the Mint can do so any day it is in operation, between the hours of 9 and 12 o'clock in the forenoon. On making application at the door, the visitor is referred to the conductor, whose sole office it is to receive and conduct those who wish to examine the Mint. The visitor is requested to sign his name in a register kept for that purpose, and then is shown—first, into the weighing-room; here all the gold and silver is received, weighed, and a receipt given to the depositor.

Melting-room—In this room the gold is melted and run into bars, when it is taken into the chipping-room, where a chip is taken from each bar for the purpose of assaying and estimating its fineness; it is again melted, and two parts of silver to one part of gold added; after it is thus mixed the liquid metal is poured into water, which causes it to granulate. The granulation is put into porcelain pots, and the refining is done by the use of nitric acid, which has no effect upon gold, while it holds base metals and silver in solution, and the gold settles to the bottom. It is then thoroughly washed with water to free it from acid, and placed in a hydraulic-press, where it is pressed into cakes resembling cheese; it is again melted, and again assayed, and sufficient copper mixed with it to bring it to the American standard of 900 fine. It is then cast into ingots, and rolled from ingots into bars, which are drawn into flat uniform strips; from these strips are cut the planchets, which, although cut as near uniform as possible, are not sufficiently so to obviate the necessity of their being sent into the adjusting-room—here each piece is weighed, and, if too heavy, it is filed down to the standard, and, if too light, it is sent into the melting-room. The adjusting is done by women. After the planchets are adjusted they are again sent into the annealing-room, and there prepared for coining by

being placed in copper boxes and put into the furnace and brought to a red heat; they are then sent into the coining-room and passed through the coining-press, where each piece receives the impressions on both sides at the same time, and thereby becomes the coin of the United States of America, which we all so much admire, and are so anxious to become possessed of.

Money is proverbially called the root of all evil; with how much correctness the writer will not attempt to question; but will ask if it is the root of all evil, is it not the medium of great amount of good? Money is the medium of exchange, and without it the baker will not part with his bread, nor the farmer with his wheat, and so on through all the ramifications of trade, without its equivalent in some form no man will part with his property, and the most compact, convenient, and convertible form is money; consequently as society is organized money is necessary to our existence. The writer was shown through the Mint by the gentlemanly conductor, who imparted all the information the nature of his business would permit him to do, as there were other visitors constantly arriving who had a claim upon his attention. The writer met a gentleman in the Mint who was once attached to the Mint at New Orleans, at which time the writer had the pleasure of forming his acquaintance. From him much of the information of the practical operations of the Mint was obtained, and the obligation is herein gratefully acknowledged.

#### SILVER BULLION.

Government buys silver, computed at 900 fine, at \$1.21 cents per ounce, troy, and pays in half dollars, quarters, or dimes.

The following is copied from the Mint Regulations:

"Silver deposited for the dollar piece shall be computed at \$1 16 4-11 per ounce, of standard fineness, the deduction will be a coinage charge of one-half of one per cent. on the gross value of the deposit."

From 1837 until 1853 the weight of a dollar was  $41\frac{1}{2}$  grains; the half-dollar  $20\frac{1}{4}$  grains, and the lesser coins in proportion. In 1853 Congress passed a law reducing the half-dollar from  $20\frac{1}{4}$  grains to  $19\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{4}$  less, and the smaller coins in proportion; hence a dollar is intrinsically worth  $7\frac{3}{4}$  cents more than two half dollars. A person who takes 100 American dollars to the Mint will receive in exchange \$104 in half dollars.

### GOLD BULLION.

Government does not buy gold, but receives it for refining on the following terms:

All gold in its native state contains some silver, also more or less of base metals. When the fineness is less than 300 1000ths the charge for parting is 3 cents per ounce. When 300 and less than 750, 7 cents, and when 750 and less than 950, 14 cents; when over 950 1000ths no charge for parting, but nothing allowed for the silver contained therein; whereas, when it is of less fineness all the silver contained in the gold is accounted and paid for. The charge for refining is computed from what the gold weighs after it is melted. When the gold has an unusual amount of base metals mixed with it, the charge for toughening is from one-half to three cents per ounce before melting, which is an additional charge. The charge for coining is one-half of one per cent. on the value of the gold and silver contained.

**WEIGHTS OF GOLD COINS OF THE UNITED STATES.**—The double-eagle, or twenty dollar piece, weighs 516 grains; the eagle, or ten dollar piece, weighs 258 grains; the half-eagle, or five dollar piece, weighs 129 grains; the quarter-eagle, or two and a half-dollar piece, weighs 64½ grains; the three dollar piece, weighs 77 2-5 grains; the dollar piece, weighs 25 8-10 grains.

**WEIGHTS OF SILVER COINS OF THE UNITED STATES.**—The dollar, weighs 412½ grains; the half-dollar, weighs 192 grains; the quarter-dollar, weighs 96 grains; the dime, weighs 38 2-5 grains; the half-dime, 19 1-5 grns.

**WEIGHTS.**—24 grains make one pennyweight.

20 pennyweights make one onnce, troy.

12 ounces make one pound, troy.

The amount of coinage in the United States, from the time the Mint was established until June 30th, 1861, was as follows:

Gold.....	\$669,116,406
Silver.....	128,159,482
Copper.....	2,674,743

The operations of the parent Mint for the year 1862, were as follows:—

Gold coined.....	\$30,036,898 11
Silver " .....	2,171,499 29

The operations of the San Francisco Branch Mint at the present time are much more extensive than those

of the parent Mint. During the month of June, of the present year, the parent Mint issued \$250,000; in the same month the San Francisco Branch Mint minted \$2,000,000. The whole amount of money coined by the latter establishment during the year ending on the 30th June, 1863, was \$18,326,835.

# LIST OF COINS.

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## AMERICAN SILVER COINS.

The writer herewith gives a list of coins in his collection:—

Dollars—First Issue—1795; of the second issue 1795, 1798, 1799, 1813, 1859.

Half Dollars—1795—1803, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812, 1813, 1814, 1817, 1818, 1819, 1821 1822, 1824, 1825, 1826, 1827, 1829, 1830, 1832.

Quarter Dollars—1805, 1806, 1815, 1818, 1819, 1820, 1821, 1822, 1825, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, 1839.

Ten Cents—1803, 1805, 1814, 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, 1827, 1828, 1829, 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837.

Ten Cents (Dimes)—1837, 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1849.

Five Cents (Half Dimes)—1829, 1830, 1832, 1835, 1839, 1853, 1854.

Three Cents—1851.

## ENGLISH SILVER COINS.

Denomination.	Date.	Value.
Crown.....	obliterated .....	\$1 12
Crown.....	1820.....	1 12
Half Crown.....	1821.....	56
" "	1823.....	56
" "	1844.....	56
Rupee (Indian).....	1840.....	40
Florin.....	1859.....	46
Shilling.....	1858.....	23
" .....	1859.....	23
Twenty Cents (Canada).....	1858.....	20
Ten Cents.....	1816, 1834, 1837, 1846.....	10
Half Rupee, Indian (native coin).....	.....	20
Quarter Rupee (Indian) .....	1840.....	10
Groat, or four-penny of James II, 1686.....	.....	7
" " Victoria, double-head.....	.....	7
" " " 1838.....	.....	7
" " " 1854.....	.....	7
Three-penny .....	1850.....	5
Quarter Shilling of United colony of Demarara and Essequibo.....	1833.....	5
Five Cents (Canada).....	1858.....	5
Three half-pencee.....	1834.....	3
One Peuny.....	1739, 1784.....	2

## SPANISH SILVER COINS.

Dollar, Ferdinand VII.....	1810.....	1 00
Dollar, Joseph Napoleon.....	1810.....	1 00
Dollar (Ferdinand VII).....	1819.....	1 00
Half Dollar, Charles III.....	1774.....	50
Pistareen " " .....	1760.....	16
Quarter Dollar " .....	1784.....	25
" " .....	1800, 1802, 1810.....	25

Half Pistareen, Philip V.....	1721.....	8
Eighth-Dollar, Philip V....	1738.....	12½
"    "    Charles III.....	1770.....	12½
"    "    Charles IV.....	1801.....	12½
"    "    Ferd. VII.....	1819.....	12½
Sixteenth-dollar, Charles IV....	1840.....	6½
"    "    "    ".....	1807.....	6½
"    "    Ferd. VII.....	1815.....	6½
"    "    Ferd. VI.....	1753.....	6½
"    "    "    ".....	1749.....	6½

## MEXICAN SILVER COINS.

Dollar.....	1860.....	1 00
Half-dollar.....	1848.....	50
Quarter-dollar .....	1841.....	25
Eighth-dollar .....	1844.....	12½
"    ".....	1857.....	12½
Sixteenth.....	1848.....	6½
Thirty-second.....	1853 .....	3½

## FRENCH SILVER COINS.

Five Franc, Louis Philippe .....	1845.....	93
One Franc, Louis XVIII.....	1821.....	17
One Franc, Napoleon.....	1808, 1809.....	17
"    "    Louis Philippe.....	1846.....	17
"    "    Republique .....	1851.....	17
"    "    Napoleon III.....	1859.....	17
Fifty cent    "    ".....	1858 .....	8

Twenty cent, Republic .....	1850.....	4
Quarter-franc, Louis Philippe..	1839.....	4
" " "	1845.....	4
Half-franc, Helvetia.....	1851.....	8

## SILVER COINS OF RUSSIA.

Ruble .....	1846.....	73
Half-ruble .....	1851.....	36½
Twenty Kopecks .....	1858.....	12
Ten Kopecks.....	1858.....	6
Ten Kopecks.....	1847.....	6
Five Kopecks.....	1847.....	3
Five Groszy (Poland) .....	1840.....	2

## SILVER COINS OF PRUSSIA.

Thaler.....	1814.....	66
Sixth-thaler .....	1764.....	10
" " .....	1796.....	10
" " .....	1803.....	10
" " .....	1842.....	10
" " .....	1833.....	10

## Hanseatic Towns—

Bremen, 36 grote.....	1859.....	30
" 12 " .....	1840.....	10
" 12 " .....	1841.....	10
" 6 " .....	1840.....	5

Lubeck, 4 schilling .....	1728.....	6
Hamb'g, 2      "      .....	1727, 1762.....	4
"      1      "      .....	1726.....	2
"      1      "      .....	1752.....	2
"      1 dreiling      .....	1855.....	2

## GERMAN SILVER COINS.

Saxony, Thaler.....	1858.....	66
Oldenbnrg, 2½ groschen .....	1858.....	
Baiern, 6 kreutzers .....	1807.....	3
Netherlands, half-guilder .....	1858.....	18
One-tenth guilder (Indian).....	1858.....	3½

## BELGIAN SILVER COINS.

Ten Centimes .....	1827.....	1
Ten Centimes .....	1853.....	4

## DANISH SILVER COINS.

Sixteen skilling .....	1856, 1857.....	8
Five Cents, Danish Island, St. Thomas, 1859 .....		5
Norwegian.....	1852.....	16
Italian, 5 soldi .....	1810.....	4
Sardinian, 50 centimes .....	1828.....	8
"      "      .....	1852.....	8

PORTUGAL, 960 reas..... 98

## SOUTH AMERICAN SILVER COINS.

Brazil, 1000 reas .....	1860.....	40
Brazil, 500 reas .....	1859.....	20
Republie of Chili, Dollar .....	1854.....	1 00
Half-dollar.....	1854.....	45
Twenty cents.....	1860.....	20
Ten cents .....	1852.....	10
Five cents .....	1853.....	5
Republie of Peru, half-dollar	1836.....	35
" " "	1859.....	40
Real .....	1827.....	10
Bolivia, half-dollar .....	1854.....	35
New Granada, 2 reals.....	1842.....	15
" Dollar.....	1847.....	65
" Dollar.....	1848.....	65
" Real .....	1837, 1847.....	8
" Half-real .....	1852.....	4
Argentine Repub., 4 reals .....	1815.....	45
" " 4 reals .....	1849.....	48
Costa Rica, Real .....	1849.....	12½
" Quarter-real.....	1848.....	3½
Columbia, Real .....	1830.....	10
Lima quarter-real.....	1855.....	3
Popayan, quarter-real.....	1850.....	3
Chilian—Three rude silver pieces of 25¢., 12½¢., 6¼¢.		
Pieces of Peruvian coins cut.		

Two Japan coins, oblong, Itzebue, 47 cents each.

One Saigon, value 40 cents.

One Turkish coin, value 25 cents.

One Chinese Syeee, value 65 cents.

## COPPER COINS.

## AMERICAN—

Cent of the State of Connecticut, 1787.

First issue of United States Cents, 1787. Two Washington cents, 1783.

Cent of 1794, the second year after the establishment of the mint. Cent of 1798, and specimens of almost every issue since that time.

Half-cents of 1804, 1851.

Jackson cents, 1834—legend, “my substitute for the United States Bank.”

Cent, 1837—legend, “Not one cent for tribute, millions for defence.”

Medallion of 1837.—Inscription, “Illustrious predecessor, I follow in thy foot-steps.” Reverse, “Executive Experiment,” with a representation of the Sub Treasury on the back of a tortoise, alluding to the removal of the treasury deposits by Jackson.

Nickel cents from their first issue in 1857.

## ENGLISH—

Penny-pieces of 1795, and many subsequent dates.

Half-pennies of 1795 1731, 1795, and many others of later dates.

Farthings of 1789, and others of later dates.

Half Farthing, 1841.

## IRISH—

Penny, 1823.

Half-penny, George I. 1723, being one of the "Wood's halfpence."

Half-penny, 1792, 1806, and many others of later dates  
Farthing, 1806.

Prince of Wales penny of 1812. During the Regency  
Manx, or Isle of Man. Farthing, 1839.

Upper Canada Penny, 1852, 1857.

Lower Canada penny, 1837.

New Brunswick Penny, 1843.

" " Half-penny, 1843.

East India Company Cents and Half-cents.

Australian Pennies.

## FRENCH—

Double Tournois, Henry IV, 1599.

Sous, Louis XIV, 1654.

Medallion, 1681.

Sous, 1799, and later dates.

Centimes, Napoleon I, and III.

## OTHER COINS—

Russian Kopeks, 1773, 1842, 1856.

Prussian 3 Pfennig, 1822.

" 2 " 1851.

Austrian 2 Kreutzen, 1848.

Austrian Coin, 1634.

Norwegian  $\frac{2}{3}$  Skilling.

Sardinian 5 Centisime, 1826.

Venetian Coin, 1790.

Spanish Cents and Half-cents.

Portuguese 20 Reis, 1776.

" 10 " "

Dutch Half and Quarter Stiver.

Batavia Half Stiver, 1825.

Dutch East Indies Nederi India, 1838.

" " Schwaren, 1852.

Belgian 2 Centimes, 1 Centime.

Greek Coin, 1838. Swiss Canton of Zurich 2 rappen.

East India Piece. Brazilian 40 Reis pieces.

Buenos Ayres, 2 Reals. Chili Cent and Half-cent.

Venezuela Cent. Mexican States, various.

Republic of Hayti, 1 Centime, 1846. Japanese Tempo's

Chinese Coins, Cash. The only coin being used in  
China.

Roman coin of the Emperor Trajan, who reigned from A. D. 98 to A. D. 117.

Several other Roman coins, with the device perfect,  
but the inscription obliterated,

Of the early history of coining in America, the writer has taken Dickeson's "American Numismatic Manual" for his authority. The prices of the coins were copied from Thompson's "Coin Chart Manual," in a careful manner, according to their date, as South American Coins differ in fineness in the coinage of different years. For instance, four reals of the Argentine confederation of 1815, is worth 45 cents, and four reals of the same country of 1843 is worth but 40 cents; and even a greater difference exists between the coins of the same denomination of some other of the Central and South American Republics.

### CONTINENTAL MONEY.

During the war of the revolution, the government resorted to the issue of paper money to pay for supplies necessary to prosecute the war. The writer has one of these bills which reads thus: "Thirty Dollars—This bill entitles the bearer to receive thirty Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a resolution passed by Congress at Philadelphia, Sep. 26th, 1778, No. 33804, signed H. Graff." Around the border it has the words "United States Continental Currency."

The bills were never redeemed by the government, and consequently became worthless. From this circumstance arose the adage so much in use when a person wishes to designate anything as being of no value, says, "It is not worth a Continental d—n."

# RARE ANCIENT COINS.

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The writer has in his collection some very rare and ancient Coins, the recent history of which is quite interesting. They were in the possession of a Danish nobleman, who placed them on exhibition in the Royal Museum of Denmark, whence he withdrew them when about to travel. In his wanderings he met Mr. M. Otis Roberts, of this City, who was then in China, and to him he disposed of the coins. The writer purchased them from Mr. Roberts, and he herewith gives a condensed history of each.

## ONE COIN.

### COLONIA NIRNAUSUS GALLIA.—(about A.D. 40.)

This money is from the time when the Emperor of Rome ruled in Gallia, as well as in Britania. The exact date cannot be given.

## ONE COIN.

### ALEXANDER SEVEA.—(A.D. 239 to 245.)

Alexander Sevea, a cousin of Antonio Heleogabulus, was a friend of the Christians. He was murdered by Thrace Maximinius, in Mains, Germany.

## TWO COINS.

### TRAJAN & HADRIAN—98 to 117—117 to 138, A. D.

Ulpius Trajanus was a good monarch. He followed Cossessus Nerva as Emperor, and was called the "Best." He built in Rome temples, triumph bowers, a new bibliotek, and a new forum.

Hadrian was a very peaceable man. He built the Hadrian wall in Britaunia. His monument stands in Anglesburg, Rome.

## ONE COIN.

JULIA MAMEA-ROMA—235 to 222—B. C.

This Empress was the mother of Alexander Serverus, who reigned from 235 to 222 B. C. In his reign the Persian Empire was formed.

## ONE COIN.

OTTO I—936 to 973, A. D.

Otto, the first King of Saxonia, son of Henrieck I. In the year 962 he was made Emperor of Germany.

## ONE COIN.

LOUIS II—1346 to 1384—FRANCE.

## ONE COIN.

PHILIP OF MACEDONIA—361 to 336, B. C.

Philip of Macedonia was father of Alexander the Great. In his time lived Socrates and Demosthenes.

## TWO COINS.

CARACALLA AND GRATIAN—211 to 217—217 to 239—A. D.

Bassiamus Antonius Caracalla was a very bad Emperor. He killed his brother Getha in his mother's arms. He also killed his teacher, Papianus.

Gratian followed Caracalla as Emperor. He was a bad man, and hated the Christians. He received the name of the second Nero.

## ONE COIN.

CHRISTIAN IV—1645—DENMARK.

